Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance prior to completing this form

(1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME: :

National Freight Advisory Committee (NFAC)

(2) Authority:

The NFAC will operate in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. 2.

(3) Mission/Function:

The committee provides information, advice, and recommendations to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation on all matters relating to freight transportation in the United States.

(4) Points of View:

The committee will have at least 25 voting members who reflect various perspectives of freight transportation. The primary areas of freight transportation represented by NFAC include: (1) modes of transportation; (2) regional representation across the Nation; (3) relevant policy areas such as safety, labor, environment; (4) freight customers and providers; and (5) government bodies. Members may be selected to serve as Representatives or Special Government Employees (SGEs). Determinations to appoint individuals as SGEs or Representatives will be based on whether or not the individual would be appointed solely for his or her expertise.

(5) Other balance Factors

Members are appointed to a 2-year term and, to the extent practicable,

we will seek to ensure balance by appointing individuals who represent State Departments of Transportation, State and local elected officials, local planning offices, shippers, air cargo, labor unions, business and economic development, rail, maritime, ports, trucking, pipeline, environment, equity, and safety interests.

(6) Candidate Identification Process:

The Secretary will identify individuals with various kinds of expertise, experience, and perspectives on freight transportation. Potential members of the Committee are reviewed by the staff of the Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy and the General Counsel's office. The candidate's biographical information is assessed with regard to the criteria noted in paragraphs 4 and 5 above. The staff recommendations are forwarded to the Secretary for selection. Each applicant's information is retained in case an unexpected vacancy should arise.

(7) **SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE:**

No subcommittees are currently planned; however, if formed the Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy will apply criteria appropriate to the responsibilities of each subcommittee.

(8) **Other:**

N/A

(9) date prepared/updated: